

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA**

Elana Roewe,

Plaintiff,

v.

International Computer Systems, Inc. dba First
Collection Services; and DOES 1-10,
inclusive,

Defendants.

:
: Civil Action No.: _____
:

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:
:
: **COMPLAINT**
: **JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**
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:
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For this Complaint, the Plaintiff, Elana Roewe, by undersigned counsel, states as follows:

JURISDICTION

1. This action arises out of Defendants’ repeated violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, *et seq.* (“FDCPA”) in their illegal efforts to collect a consumer debt.

2. Supplemental jurisdiction exists pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367.

3. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), in that the Defendants transact business in this District and a substantial portion of the acts giving rise to this action occurred in this District.

PARTIES

4. The Plaintiff, Elana Roewe (“Plaintiff”), is an adult individual residing in Valdosta, Georgia, and is a “consumer” as the term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3).

5. Defendant International Computer Systems, Inc. dba First Collection Services (“International”), is an Arkansas business entity with an address of 10925 Otter Creek East Boulevard, Mabelvale, Arkansas 72103, operating as a collection agency, and is a “debt collector” as the term is defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

6. Does 1-10 (the “Collectors”) are individual collectors employed by International and whose identities are currently unknown to the Plaintiff. One or more of the Collectors may be joined as parties once their identities are disclosed through discovery.

7. International at all times acted by and through one or more of the Collectors.

ALLEGATIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL COUNTS

A. The Debt

8. The Plaintiff allegedly incurred a financial obligation (the “Debt”) to an original creditro (the “Creditor”).

9. The Debt arose from services provided by the Creditor which were primarily for family, personal or household purposes and which meets the definition of a “debt” under 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(5).

10. The Debt was purchased, assigned or transferred to International for collection, or International was employed by the Creditor to collect the Debt.

11. The Defendants attempted to collect the Debt and, as such, engaged in “communications” as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(2).

B. International Engages in Harassment and Abusive Tactics

12. Within the last year, International began contacting Plaintiff in an attempt to collect the Debt.

13. Upon answering calls from International, Plaintiff would ask to whom she was speaking.

14. International collector responded by telling Plaintiff she needed to confirm her identity before she would be told the name of company.

15. Plaintiff refuses to provide any personal information besides her name to any person or entity that refuses to disclose its true identity.

C. Plaintiff Suffered Actual Damages

16. The Plaintiff has suffered and continues to suffer actual damages as a result of the Defendants' unlawful conduct.

17. As a direct consequence of the Defendants' acts, practices and conduct, the Plaintiff suffered and continues to suffer from humiliation, anger, anxiety, emotional distress, fear, frustration and embarrassment.

COUNT I

VIOLATIONS OF THE FDCPA 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et seq.

18. The Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully stated herein.

19. The Defendants' conduct violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692d in that Defendants engaged in behavior the natural consequence of which was to harass, oppress, or abuse the Plaintiff in connection with the collection of a debt.

20. The Defendants' conduct violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692d(5) in that Defendants caused a phone to ring repeatedly and engaged the Plaintiff in telephone conversations, with the intent to annoy and harass.

21. The Defendants' conduct violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692d(6) in that Defendants placed calls to the Plaintiff without disclosing the identity of the debt collection agency.

22. The Defendants' conduct violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692e in that Defendants used false, deceptive, or misleading representation or means in connection with the collection of a debt.

23. The Defendants' conduct violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692e(10) in that Defendants employed false and deceptive means to collect a debt.

24. The Defendants' conduct violated 15 U.S.C. § 1692f in that Defendants used unfair and unconscionable means to collect a debt.

25. The foregoing acts and omissions of the Defendants constitute numerous and multiple violations of the FDCPA, including every one of the above-cited provisions.

26. The Plaintiff is entitled to damages as a result of Defendants' violations.

COUNT II

VIOLATION OF THE GEORGIA FAIR BUSINESS PRACTICES ACT,

O.C.G.A. § 10-1-390, et seq.

27. The Plaintiff incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully stated herein.

28. The Plaintiff is a "consumer" as the term is defined by O.C.G.A. § 10-1-392(6).

29. The Plaintiff incurred a Debt as a result of engaging into "[c]onsumer transactions" as the term is defined by O.C.G.A. § 10-1-392(10).

30. The Defendants' unfair or deceptive acts to collect the Debt occurred in commerce, in violation of O.C.G.A. § 10-1-393(a).

31. The Plaintiff suffered mental anguish, emotional distress and other damages in an amount to be proven at trial.

32. Defendant's failure to comply with these provisions constitutes an unfair or deceptive act under O.C.G.A. § 10-1-393(a) and, as such, the Plaintiff is entitled to damages plus reasonable attorney's fees.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff prays that judgment be entered against Defendants:

1. Actual damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(1) and O.C.G.A. § 10-1-399(a) against Defendants;

2. Statutory damages of \$1,000.00 pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1692k(a)(2)(A) against Defendants;
3. Treble damages pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 10-1-399(c) against Defendants;
4. Costs of litigation and reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(3) and O.C.G.A. § 10-1-399(d) against Defendants;
5. Actual damages from Defendants for the all damages including emotional distress suffered as a result of the intentional, reckless, and/or negligent FDCPA violations in an amount to be determined at trial for the Plaintiff;
6. Punitive damages pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 10-1-399(a) against Defendants; and
7. Such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

TRIAL BY JURY DEMANDED ON ALL COUNTS

Dated: June 6, 2019

By: /s/ Sergei Lemberg, Esq.
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